

## GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR CORPUS CHRISTI

### Where Else Should We Go?



Jesus tells us that he is the bread of life, that he provides the only food which truly nourishes, that he gives us his own self to sustain us on our journey, that we are to eat his flesh and blood in order to abide in him. For many of Jesus' disciples this was just too hard to understand and they walked away.

It would be too easy for us to write these lapsed disciples off as fools, as lacking in faith, or as lazy and stupid. We have to remember that up until this point, these men and women had been faithful disciples. To have found a stumbling block too great to overcome must have been a sad and painful moment for them. It would have been interesting to know how many of them might have returned to Jesus at a later date, or how the lapsed had found an alternative way to fulfilment. The real point is that the stumbling block that finally proved too great for those early disciples could face any one of us, and what we need to address, is how we as disciples should cope with the same kind of difficulty.

Key to loyal discipleship is to ask what made Peter and his fellow disciples different from the ones that gave up. They were just as human as the others; they probably had just as many doubts as the others and no more in the way of courage or intellect. The answer has to lie in Peter's simple, "Lord, to whom shall we go?" The 'twelve' might have struggled with doubts and understanding, but they never doubted where they should be looking for answers. Quite simply, they didn't take their eye off the ball. They knew that they should trust Jesus even if some of his teachings were over their heads.

Every day we are faced with the same decisions. Do we follow Jesus' blueprint for living exemplary lives? Do we look to Jesus as the Son of God and the key to eternal life? Do we join in Holy Communion believing in Jesus' real presence ... or do we turn our backs and look for answers somewhere else?



**PARISH PRAYER – Father, pour out your Spirit upon our parish. Grant us a new vision of your glory, a new faithfulness to your Word and a new consecration to your service, that your love might grow among us and your kingdom come, through Christ our Lord, Amen.**

Useful links: Diocesan Safeguarding – <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/safeguarding/>  
 Diocesan Website – <http://www.rcdea.org.uk>  
 Notre Dame High School, Norwich – <http://www.ndhs.org.uk>  
 Daily Liturgy Website – [www.universalis.com](http://www.universalis.com)

## PARISH OF THE SACRED HEART AND ST. MARGARET MARY [Registered Charity 278742]

Parish Priest: Fr. Brendan Moffatt – Telephone: 01362 694066

Email: [Brendan.Moffatt@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:Brendan.Moffatt@rcdea.org.uk)

Address: The Presbytery, 35 London Road, Dereham NR19 1AS

Parish Website: <http://www.sacredheartdereham.org.uk>

Permanent Deacon: Rev. Martin Sanderson: Tel: 01362 822590

Email: [martin.sanderson@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:martin.sanderson@rcdea.org.uk)

Parish Music Leader: Michael King: Email: [michaeljwking@gmail.com](mailto:michaeljwking@gmail.com)

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Kathleen Edmunds:

Email: [kathleenedmunds@yahoo.com](mailto:kathleenedmunds@yahoo.com)

## 14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2020 – THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST – Year C

Mass Times for the coming week 11 <sup>th</sup> Week of the Year, Weekday Year II, Psalter Week 3		
<i>Although celebrated without a congregation, the times of Mass are as follows, with church opening times for private prayer given below:</i>		<b>Intentions</b>
Sun. 14 <sup>th</sup> June - 11:00 am	<b>The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)</b>	The People of the Parish
Mon. 15 <sup>th</sup> June - 12:00 Noon <b>Church open 12.30-2.30pm</b>	Feria	The UCM
Tues. 16 <sup>th</sup> June - No Mass today <b>Church open 12.30-2.30pm</b>	Feria	-
Weds. 17 <sup>th</sup> June - 12:00 Noon <b>Church open 12.30-2.30pm</b>	Feria	The UCM
Thurs. 18 <sup>th</sup> June - 12:00 Noon <b>Church open 12.30-2.30pm</b>	Feria	The UCM
Fri. 19 <sup>th</sup> June - 12:00 Noon <b>Church open 12.30-2.30pm</b>	<b>The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus</b>	Peter Saville King
Sat. 20 <sup>th</sup> June - No Mass today <b>Church open 11.00-1.00pm</b>	Immaculate Heart of the BVM	-
Sun. 21 <sup>st</sup> June - 11:00 am <b>Church open 12.00-2.00pm</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ord. Time</b>	The People of the Parish

The parish newsletter (incl. back copies) is available to view on the parish website from Friday onward each week.

**Anniversaries this week:** Maria Gay, Ellen Whitehead, Cardinal Basil Hume, Claudinette Barbas, Thomas Day, Tony Harmer, Madeline Lambert, Francis Hunt. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

**Hospital Visits:** If you or family members are admitted to the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital (NNUH) or Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, King's Lynn (QEII), and would like a visit from the Roman Catholic Chaplain, please call either St. John's Cathedral, Norwich (01603 624615) for visits to NNUH, or call the NNUH Hospital Chaplaincy direct on 01603 287470 for people needing urgent spiritual attention, or for visits to QEII Hospital, call Fr. Peter Rollings on 01553 772220. If you would like to receive the Sacrament or Anointing of the sick before going to hospital, please contact Fr. Brendan on 01362 694066.

**Sick & Housebound [with GDPR Permissions] – Please pray for:** Janet Yardley, Jenny Rudd, Carol Whitesides, Shirley Liebenhals, Frances Saville King, Una McWeeny, Derek Williams, Teresa Kendall, Greta Cummings, Deacon Ron O'Toole (former Deacon at Dereham).

**Money Matters** - Thank you to all of you who have taken out Standing Orders to support the parish during lockdown. For those who would do the same the information is: Account name: **Catholic Church of Dereham**. The Sort Code is: **40-20-08** and the Account number is: **11311115** Thanks also to those who have posted cheques for their contributions.



**Newsletter by Email** - Please let Fr. Brendan know if you would like to receive the parish's weekly bulletin by email. We have a GDPR compliant list of names for this purpose.

**Diary Dates for this week – All parish group meetings currently remain suspended.**

**Church Reopening:** I am delighted to tell you that our church can open for private prayer as from Monday. **We must have two people to act as stewards at all times that the church is open. Volunteers are needed.** My proposal is to open the church for private prayer for two hours after Mass. Preparations for this have now been made. The seats have been pushed together to allow for social distancing. There will be hand sanitizer available to us on entry and leaving the church. I have some volunteers for stewarding the church during opening hours, but I need more. The more volunteers there are, the longer the church can be open. The Blessed Sacrament is reserved in the tabernacle as usual. Please observe the social distancing rules at the Votive Candle Stand. As things develop then we can amend this. This is the first 'baby step' on our return to ordinary life. Please contact Fr. Brendan to volunteer for some prayerful stewarding in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. While there is no Mass on Tuesday, the church will be open from 12.30 to 2.30pm. Thanks to the volunteer stewards.



**Statement from Cardinal Vincent Nichols on the Reopening of our churches for private prayer, Monday June 15th:** "I am grateful to the Prime Minister for his decision that our churches may now open again for individual prayer. I thank the Secretary of State for

Communities, Mr Robert Jenrick and the Minister of State, Lord Stephen Greenhalgh, for their leadership of the Task Force which helped bring about this important step.

This is a first, measured step in restoring the more normal practice of our faith and will be welcomed by so many, who have waited with great patience since 23 March when our churches were closed, by Government decision, as part of the fight against this pandemic.

I thank everyone for that patience. It is important that every care is taken to ensure that the Guidance given for this limited opening is fully observed, not least by those entering our churches. Our preparation is taking place with thoroughness. Visiting a church for individual prayer, benefitting from the sacredness of that space, can be done safely and confidently.

Not every Catholic Church will be open on 15 June. Local decisions and provision have to lead this process. But it is a great blessing, for individuals and for the benefit of all in society, that church doors will again be open to all who long to pray there for the peace and grace we need today.

This first step enables us to learn and prepare for those that will take us to a fuller use of our churches, for the celebration of Mass and other sacraments. We await that time with deep longing but patient understanding that the protection of the health of our society, especially of the most vulnerable, is a proper cause for caution and care. ~ **Cardinal Vincent Nichols**, *President, Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales* [www.cbcew.org.uk/news/](http://www.cbcew.org.uk/news/)

**Feast of the Sacred Heart, 19<sup>th</sup> June 2020** - On this day we celebrate the 'Sacred heart' as a symbol of Jesus' love for us. As Christians we are asked every day to show that love to the world. As Christians we are asked to make this our daily habit.



**Mass for the Sick and their Families, NHS Front-Line workers and those working in Social Care** - In order to show a spiritual solidarity with all those who are involved in the ways described above, each week a Catholic Bishop will celebrate Mass in their Cathedral which will be live-streamed for people to join. This will take place **every Thursday at 7.00pm.**

**Future Masses are:**

- 18<sup>th</sup> June - Archbishop Bernard Longley - Birmingham Cathedral
- **25<sup>th</sup> June - Bishop Alan Hopes - Norwich Cathedral**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> July - Archbishop John Wilson - Southwark Cathedral
- 9<sup>th</sup> July - Bishop Tom Williams - Liverpool Cathedral

By visiting the Cathedral webpage (Norwich: <https://www.sjbcathedral.org.uk/>) or the Bishops' Conference Webpage, [www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk), links for the live-streaming of these Masses can be found.

**Bitesize** – "One cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well."

*Virginia Woolf, A Room of One's Own, 1929*